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CRIME PREVENTION AND CRIMINAL JUSTICE

United Nations African Institute for the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders

Report of the Secretary-General

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I. INTRODUCTION

1. The present report has been prepared pursuant to General Assembly resolution 50/147 of 21 December 1995. It highlights issues on the status of the United Nations African Institute for the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders (UNAFRI), its operations, staffing, programme activities and funding, and provides strategic perspectives on the functions of the Institute, relating to its anticipated substantial contribution to the Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme, for the African region.

2. The General Assembly, in its resolution 50/147, once again commended the Institute for the efforts it has made towards fulfilling its mandate, notwithstanding the serious budgetary constraints of the Institute. At the same time, the Assembly requested the Secretary-General to ensure that the Institute was provided with adequate funds, within the overall appropriation of the programme budget and from extrabudgetary resources.

3. The Institute continued to be recognized by member States as a dynamic operational instrument for enhancing regional cooperation, coordination and collaboration in the fight against crime, especially in its transnational dimensions, which could not be adequately dealt with by national action alone.

4. The Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, at its fifth session, held from 21 to 31 May 1996, was informed of the Institute's efforts to promote regional technical cooperation and to coordinate activities in crime prevention, thus aiming at the promotion of sustainable development and respect for the rule of law by making criminal justice systems more effective in Africa.

II. STATUS OF OPERATIONS

5. Apart from indicating the present level of the Institute's operations, the present report updates the report submitted to the General Assembly in 1995 (A/50/375).

A. Staffing

6. In view of its persisting financial difficulties, the Institute was forced to freeze the posts of its substantive officers, thereby laying off its core Professional staff as a cost-cutting measure. Consequently, until the financial situation of the Institute improves, consultant services will have to be used to supplement existing expertise in executing the activities undertaken by the Institute. The staffing situation is given in table 1.

B. Programme activities

7. The Institute's programme of work for the period 1995-1996, as approved by the Governing Board, consists of the following subprogramme activities:

(a) General direction and management;

(b) Training and human resources development;

(c) Comparative research and policy development;

(d) Information and documentation services;

(e) Advisory services to Governments and technical cooperation;

(f) International cooperation and joint activities;

(g) Conferences and seminars.

1. General direction and management

8. The Institute continued to implement mandated activities and to administer its staff, funds and other resources, in conformity with the stipulations of its Statute and the procedures laid down in its Staff Rules and Regulations and Financial Rules and Regulations. Appropriate measures were taken to ensure that all operations were geared to the required standard of strict and effective management. Such an approach enhanced the emphasis placed on the improved delivery of qualitative services to assist African countries in the field of crime prevention and control. The Institute's position as an active entity in the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme network was strengthened.

9. In view of its critical financial situation and the demands on the Institute to provide services to meet the needs of African countries, a vigorous campaign was mounted, urging the member States of UNAFRI to pay their assessed contributions. In addition, the Institute strengthened its efforts to build partnerships with donor Governments, agencies and other institutes.

2. Training and human resources development

10. In approving the training activities that were to be implemented during 1995-1996, the Governing Board, at its fourth ordinary meeting, held in January 1995, took into consideration the recognized need to put emphasis on upgrading the skills, knowledge and expertise of crime prevention and criminal justice personnel in the African region, giving priority to training the trainers.

11. Owing to the lack of funds, however, the training activities that had been scheduled for implementation in 1995 could not be executed.

12. The Institute cooperated with the Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Division of the United Nations Secretariat and the International Scientific and Professional Advisory Council (ISPAC) in the training workshop on the training of trainers of the custodial corps of Malawi, Uganda and the United Republic of Tanzania, held at UNAFRI from 10 to 14 July 1995; the participants were senior-level officers. The workshop offered the opportunity for testing the Basic Manual for Correction Workers, developed by ISPAC. In addition, the workshop considered and recommended practical measures to strengthen subregional and regional cooperation regarding the training of corrections personnel.

13. The Institute further cooperated with the United Nations Interregional Crime and Justice Research Institute (UNICRI), the Commonwealth Secretariat and the University of Botswana in organizing a regional training workshop entitled "Crime in southern Africa: towards the year 2000", held at Gaborone from 19 to 21 June 1996. The workshop was attended by 49 participants from six southern African countries. The majority of the participants were senior-level decision makers and managers or administrators of criminal justice departments or services; others were from academic institutions. The training workshop addressed key issues relating to social change in southern Africa and, in particular, the impact of organized crime, corruption and drug trafficking on society. Ways and means to prevent urban criminality and violence against women were discussed, as well as possibilities to cope better with problems of youth, including street children. Representatives of the Institute, who served as resource persons, briefed participants on the results of the Ninth United Nations Congress on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders, particularly as regards possible implications for Africa. To this end, the significance and relevance of UNAFRI towards enhanced regional cooperation was stressed once again. The report of the workshop will be published and made available to all countries of the region.

14. The Governing Board, at its fourth ordinary meeting, approved the following training activities to be undertaken in 1996:

(a) A training seminar entitled "Environmental crime: sanctioning strategies and sustainable development". The execution of this activity will depend on the approval of the requested rephasing of unspent funds, which were made available in 1994 by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), to be utilized in 1996. As at 30 June 1996, the decision of UNDP was still pending;

(b) A ministerial workshop on the development and implementation of joint strategies and modalities to deal with transnational criminality in Africa. The workshop will be organized jointly by the Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Division and the Institute, in the context of the implementation of the Naples Political Declaration and Global Action Plan against Organized Transnational Crime. The implementation of this activity will depend upon the availability of funds.

15. In line with the Institute's efforts to seek partnerships for joint activities, further training projects have been designed and submitted to funding agencies (see paras. 26 ff.).

3. Comparative research and policy development

16. The action-oriented study on the resettlement of street children has been continued, notwithstanding the Institute's severe financial limitations. An encouraging follow-up of the study was the training workshop on crime prevention in urban areas. The Institute sponsored the workshop, in collaboration with some local communities. Thirty participants, including social workers working with street children, parents of street children, community leaders, managers of local grass-roots communities and law enforcement personnel, were sensitized to the need for local community intervention geared towards effective social integration of street children in their communities of origin. The Institute will publicize this initiative in order to raise awareness of the situation that street children have to face in the African region. Funds permitting, the Institute will replicate this initiative in several other African countries.

17. As mentioned in the previous report (A/50/375, para. 18), the Institute completed an initial action-oriented study on the social rehabilitation of prisoners. The report of the study has been included in a monograph on the rehabilitation of prisoners, which should be issued to interested parties subject to the availability of funds. The monograph was available, as a background document, in both English and French, at the All African Prisons Conference, held at Kampala from 19 to 21 September 1996.

18. The Institute continued to identify, analyse and publish trends and patterns of criminality, indicating, on the basis of studies undertaken in various African countries, the deleterious consequences of crime to the sustainable development of African countries, particularly when considering economic and organized crime in its transnational dimensions. The Institute used every opportunity, especially its biannual newsletter and its participation in subregional, regional and international meetings, to raise awareness of the importance of such research, which is a basic requirement for developing effective practical measures to combat crime.

19. The Institute was encouraged by an increased willingness of African States to base their policy decisions with regard to crime prevention and criminal justice issues on appropriate, adequate, valid and reliable data, as has been indicated by several participants of training activities organized by the Institute. The Institute will continue to undertake advisory missions and train national officials towards establishing appropriate structures and systems for the regular production of the required crime data. However, the non-availability of research funds remained the major constraint in this regard.

20. The Governing Board approved three research activities to be undertaken in 1995-1996, subject to the availability of funds:

(a) Continuation of the African survey on crime, victimization and criminal justice administration. The funds are still not available for its implementation. In the meantime, however, the Institute is cooperating with the Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Division and UNICRI in exploring possible sources of funding to undertake a victimization survey in one or two francophone countries in West Africa. This is a significant activity towards future

development of the work programme of the Institute, particularly with regard to its responsiveness to the priority needs of African countries;

(b) As mentioned in the previous report (A/50/375, para. 17), the Institute completed a study on street children in Kampala. Based on those findings, action-oriented studies on the resettlement of street children in other African countries are planned to be undertaken, again subject to the availability of adequate funds. It should be noted that this activity will be conducted fully in line with the priority theme "prevention of violence against children" of the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme;

(c) Continuation of the action-oriented study on prisoners' social rehabilitation in other African countries (see para. 17 above).

4. Information and documentation services

21. During the period under review, the Institute published its biannual newsletter (vol. 6, No. 2 and vol. 7, No. 1) in English and French. The newsletters were widely distributed to countries in the region, to other institutes comprising the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme network and to international bodies. The mailing list has continued to expand. The Institute continued its compilation of the roster of African experts in the field of crime prevention and criminal justice, and criminology, now containing 24 expert data entries, as well as the roster of African country profiles.

22. The Institute participated in the Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme's common project of connecting all the entities of the network on Internet. The National Institute of Justice (United States of America), which was setting up its Internet-based information network, assisted the Institute in this regard. The National Institute of Justice will provide the infrastructure for UNAFRI, with a view to linking it to the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Information Network homepage, which will provide the Institute with the necessary access to Internet, providing useful material, research and survey publications of interest to the African region.

23. The Institute's efforts to further develop its specialized reference library were supported by other crime prevention institutes, government agencies, academic institutions and associated organizations. Notwithstanding this assistance, persistent budgetary constraints continued negatively to affect the Institute's information and documentation services.

5. Advisory services to Governments and technical cooperation

24. In view of its severe financial situation, the Institute was unable to undertake any advisory mission in 1995. Similarly, the difficult economic and financial situation faced by most countries in the African region discouraged Governments from requesting such services at their own expense.

6. International cooperation and joint activities

25. High priority was given to further improve the cooperation between UNAFRI and the institutes and centres comprising the Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme network and other relevant organizations. The efforts previously made to establish contacts with agencies that have indicated interest in cooperating with the Institute within and outside the African region were further strengthened. Emphasis was again placed on increased participation among the organizations in exchanging information, views and experience relating to activities concerning crime prevention and criminal justice. In this respect, the Institute's efforts were guided by the decisions of the Ninth Congress and the fifth session of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, particularly with regard to strengthening cooperation and coordination among institutes, so as to ensure complementariness of activities and avoidance of competition with one another. The Institute is grateful for the assistance provided by other institutes in the network that have facilitated its participation in the annual joint programme coordination meetings of the network. Thus, even though the Institute's programme of work and budget is determined by its Governing Board as a functional body of the Conference of Ministers of the Economic Commission for Africa (ECA), the Institute's programme of work is in fact guided by and in line with the Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme.

26. The Institute maintained its strong support for planned joint activities as a practical measure to enhance its capacity to provide needed services to member States and thereby work towards the fulfilment of its mandate, especially in view of its difficult financial situation. Fortunately, the Institute is increasingly becoming better informed of and more actively involved in activities undertaken in the African region by other entities of the Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme network.

27. The Institute participated in a number of joint cooperation activities during the reporting period. The Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Division and ISPAC co-sponsored a training workshop on the training of trainers of the custodial corps (see para. 12). UNICRI, the Commonwealth Secretariat, the University of Botswana and the Institute co-sponsored a training workshop entitled "Crime in southern Africa: towards the year 2000" (see para. 13). The Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Division and the Government of Burkina Faso are co-sponsoring, with the full cooperation and participation of UNAFRI, a series of training seminars on juvenile justice and corrective administration, to take place in three towns in Burkina Faso. The first seminar was conducted in March 1996. Subsequent seminars will be implemented later in 1996. The International Centre for the Prevention of Crime (ICPC) and the Institute, in partnership with the Urban Management Programme (UMP), continued to develop and finalize the project proposal on "making cities in Africa safer from crime". The project would involve the participation of five African cities. The three cooperating agencies that are promoting the proposal intensified their efforts towards mobilizing possible funding for the project.

28. The United States Department of Justice and Department of State are cooperating with the Institute on a project on extradition. The project consists of two phases: collecting information on extradition laws, procedures

and practices in all African States; and conducting a training seminar on extradition, involving participants from all African countries. The project will lay the groundwork for future cooperation efforts between the Government of the United States of America and UNAFRI in responding to crime problems in the African region.

29. Following the visit of the Director of the United Nations Asia and Far East Institute for the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders (UNAFEI) to UNAFRI (see para. 51), and in collaboration with a local representative of the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA), the Institute submitted to the Government of Japan a five-year technical assistance proposal for funding, covering annual training courses on the treatment of offenders. Furthermore, the Institute contributed to an intergovernmental expert group meeting on practical recommendations for further development and promotion of mechanisms for international cooperation, with respect to United Nations model treaties, development of model legislation on extradition, and other related forms of international cooperation.

30. The Institute continued to cooperate closely with UNICRI in the international (victim) survey. The third phase of the survey involved the undertaking of research in a further three African countries. The international (victim) survey is distinct from the African crime, victimization and criminal justice administration survey. The former focuses on victimization as such and is only executed in one large city. The latter is a comprehensive survey on a national scale.

31. The international study of firearms regulations was launched in 1995; the Institute, as a member of the project team, is cooperating in the global project.

32. In addition, the Institute consulted with several institutes of the Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme network on possible joint cooperation projects with regard to the improvement of prison conditions in Rwanda, and the reform of laws and prison institutions, to ensure the better use and application of the Standard Minimum Rules for the Treatment of Offenders. Other draft projects have been developed on juvenile justice reform, the protection of women from becoming victims of crime and practical strategies to deal with transnational crime in Africa.

7. Conferences and seminars

33. The Institute participated in a number of international, regional, subregional and national meetings and seminars, which were held in different parts of the world, as follows:

(a) The tenth coordinating meeting of the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme network, held at Courmayeur, Italy on 17 and 18 October 1995. The meeting, organized by UNICRI, discussed modalities for the implementation of the recommendations of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice at its fourth session, concerning the specific action required by the institutes. Furthermore, it was decided to inform the

Commission, at its fifth session, on the financial situation of the institutes comprising the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme network;

(b) The Director represented the Institute at the fifth plenary session of the International Scientific and Professional Advisory Council, held at Courmayeur, Italy from 18 to 20 October 1995;

(c) The International Conference on Traumas of Children and Youth in Armed Conflict, held at the Institute of Social Studies, The Hague, Netherlands on 20 and 21 November 1995. The Institute's Research Adviser presented a paper on the rehabilitation of children in different situations, based on experiences gained from the Institute's study of the social rehabilitation and reintegration of street children in Kampala;

(d) The International Conference on Urban Justice and Safety, organized by the Urban Management Programme, the European Forum for Urban Security and the Municipality of Saint Denis, Reunion, held at Saint Denis from 4 to 8 December 1995. The Conference discussed the issue of crime and the need for justice in the context of the crisis of judiciary institutions in the urban context, innovative practices, and local justice and the role of judiciary institutions. The Deputy Director, who represented the Institute, presented a paper on resistance council courts in Kampala, a case study on local justice and the role of judiciary institutions;

(e) The Institute was represented at the ad hoc expert group meeting on the international study of firearm regulations, held at the United Nations Office at Vienna from 18 to 20 December 1995. The meeting was organized by the Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Division of the Secretariat. The Institute is a member of the project team and its steering committee. In its latter capacity, the Institute was represented at the meeting of the steering committee of the project, which was held at Vienna on 2 and 3 May 1996;

(f) The Institute participated in the expert group meeting on victims of crime and abuse of power in the international setting, held at Vienna from 18 to 22 December 1995. The meeting was organized by the Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Division;

(g) The Institute participated and assisted in the organization of the Eighth Meeting of Heads of National Drug Law Enforcement Agencies in Africa (HONLEA), held at Kampala from 23 to 27 October 1995;

(h) The Pan African Conference on Youth and Development, organized by the Organization of African Unity, was held at Addis Ababa from 18 to 22 March 1996. The Research Adviser presented a paper on youth and crime prevention;

(i) The Institute participated in an international conference on crime and justice in the 1990s, which was held at Pretoria, South Africa from 3 to 5 July 1996. The conference was organized by the Criminological Society of Southern Africa as part of the Society's tenth anniversary. The Deputy Director presented a keynote paper on crime in African countries;

(j) The Professional staff members of the Institute participated, as resource persons, in a number of locally held seminars and workshops related to crime prevention and criminal justice administration and the observance of human rights.

III. FUNDING AND SUPPORT

A. Funding sources

34. During the reporting period, the Institute was funded by contributions from its member States, a grant from the United Nations within its overall appropriation of its programme budget and rental income received from renting the Institute's premises and facilities. The Institute requested the Administrator of UNDP to reallocate the unspent balance of US$ 144,614 of its 1994 programme support.

1. Assessed financial contributions of African member States

35. At the present time, there are 27 African States that are members of the Institute. Two African Governments have indicated their desire to accede to the Statute of the Institute in due course. In addition, there is clear evidence that African Governments support the role and mandated activities of the Institute. Since the establishment of the Institute, African Governments have been informed that the Institute is to be funded by its members. Thus, its survival depends on the willingness of member States to pay their assessed financial contributions on a regular basis and on time. Appeals to African States to this effect have been made by the General Assembly, the Economic and Social Council, the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, the Conference of Ministers of ECA and the Governing Board of the Institute. During the reporting period, the management of the Institute, encouraged by the Chairman of the Governing Board, mounted a vigorous campaign to mobilize member States to pay their assessed contributions, utilizing every possible approach and contact.

36. Admittedly, the economies of many African countries are in a precarious situation. It is also noteworthy that, in response to the appeals, African States individually and, depending on circumstances, collectively have made pledges to honour their obligations, which, in the majority of cases, remain unfulfilled.

37. During the financial year ending December 1995, only one country paid its assessed contribution, as shown in the 1995 income and expenditure statement (table 3). In the period from January to July 1996, the Institute received further contributions from three member States. Hence, the contributions collected during the period from June 1995 to 31 July 1996 amounted to US$ 75,513.19. The total contributions received from member States since the inception of the Institute in 1989 amounted to $288,326.19. Taking the assessed contributions for the same period into account ($1,765,916), the outstanding balance amounted to $1,477,589.81. The status of the assessed contributions of member States and remittances during the period 1989-1996 is given in table 2.

38. The Institute's account of income and expenditure for the year 1995 is given in table 3. Although the statement shows an operating deficit of $98,443.43, this deficit is not a budgetary over-expenditure; it is attributable to inadequate collections from member States during the financial year, and payment of terminal costs by ECA to the three staff members whose services were terminated owing to inadequate funding. The deficit was covered by prior years' savings on member States contributions and the United Nations grant, as well as rental income amounting to $22,398.98. The savings on the United Nations grant that was used to cover the deficit was the result of the saving on the Director's salary appropriation, as the post remained vacant until April 1995.

2. United Nations

39. It will be recalled that, as of the 1992-1993 biennium, the General Assembly approved a grant of US$ 204,800 to cover the salaries of the Director and Deputy Director of the Institute, as well as other administrative expenses, which continued in the subsequent bienniums. At its forty-ninth session, the General Assembly approved an additional amount of $119,700 for the Institute. These funds provided the Institute with additional resources to meet its administrative expenses in 1995.

3. United Nations Development Programme

40. The financial assistance provided by UNDP, which had enabled the Institute to execute its activities, expired in October 1994, leaving an unspent balance of $144,614. Since then, the Institute's Governing Board, the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, the Conference of Ministers of ECA, the Economic and Social Council and the General Assembly have all requested the Administrator of UNDP to reallocate the unspent balance to be used by the Institute, first in 1995 and thereafter in 1996. The Director and Deputy Director recently met with the UNDP Assistant Administrator and Director of the Regional Bureau for Africa and made a special appeal for reallocation of the unspent balance. They also appealed to the Administrator to reconsider his decision regarding continuation of the funding of the Institute.

4. Sources of other income

41. In accordance with the decision of the Governing Board at its fourth meeting, held at Kampala on 22 and 23 November 1993, the Institute rented part of its facilities, which it did not use, to augment the existing sources of funding. During the reporting period, the rental income amounted to $22,398.98.

B. Resources available in 1996

42. The Governing Board, at its fourth ordinary meeting, approved the programme of work and budget of the Institute for 1995-1996 in the amount of US$ 606,414. However, the budget for 1996 was subsequently revised to $235,505.66 to reflect the assured funds, including the 1996 allotment of $81,900 from the approved

1996-1997 United Nations grant and the savings of $153,605.66 from previous contributions of member States and current receipts from member States. The revised budget did not include any provision for substantive activities.

43. The uncertainty regarding the resources available for the operational budget forced the Institute to terminate the services of the Professional staff (i.e., Training, Research and Information/Documentation Officers) in April 1996, and temporarily freeze the three posts, along with other General Service posts, until the Institute's financial situation improves. In the meantime, the Institute has to employ consultants to execute the funded substantive activities.

44. Since the funding by UNDP terminated in October 1994, the Institute has had no reliable source of funding. In addition, the expected collections of financial contributions from member States continue to be negligible (see table 2).

45. The lack of funds has impeded the Institute's ability to deliver services to member States in a timely manner. In addition, a conditionality of the Governing Board, at its fourth ordinary meeting, to approve the Institute's programme of work and budget for 1995-1996 was the anticipated approval of UNDP to rephase the unspent balance of the 1994 contribution to 1996.

C. Additional funding

46. As has been stated time and time again, the Institute must fulfil its mandate in order to enjoy recognition and support by member States and possible donor countries. To ensure that the momentum of its support is sustained, the Institute has to be provided with additional funds to implement the approved substantive activities and administrative expenses. Moreover, the General Assembly, in its resolution 50/147, called for continued provision of adequate funds to cover the expenses of core staff and the basic requirements for the implementation of the Institute's programme of work.

47. Funds will be required for the implementation of the following approved activities:

(a) A bilingual training workshop on environmental crime: sanctioning strategies and sustainable development (expenses for the activity amount to $55,000);

(b) A ministerial workshop on the development and implementation of joint strategies and modalities to deal with transnational criminality in Africa. The workshop will be organized jointly with the Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Division (see para. 14). The Institute's input is $30,000;

(c) Implementation of the African survey on crime, victimization and criminal justice administration, to be conducted in several phases; funding support in the amount of $15,000 is currently needed for one phase, involving research to be conducted in a further five countries;

(d) In addition to the cost of the above activities, the Institute is seeking funds to cover administrative expenses.

48. Consequently, the total additional funds required to cover the Institute's activities during 1997 amount to $218,000.

IV. GOVERNING BOARD

49. The fourth ordinary meeting of the Governing Board was held at Addis Ababa in January 1995. Arrangements are being made for the fifth ordinary meeting of the Board to be held later in 1996. In the meantime, the Institute has continued to implement the decisions of the Governing Board. In this connection, the management has mounted a vigorous campaign to mobilize funds for the Institute. Rental income charged on rentable facilities of the Institute amounted to $22,398.98 for the period 1995-1996. Project proposals have been prepared and submitted to funding agencies. African States that have not yet acceded to the Statute to become member States are being contacted and there are promising indications that membership will increase shortly.

V. FIFTH SESSION OF THE COMMISSION ON CRIME PREVENTION AND CRIMINAL JUSTICE

50. The Director participated in the fifth session of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, held at Vienna from 21 to 31 May 1996. In his address, the Director outlined the financial difficulties facing the Institute, which constrained its capability to fulfil its mandated services and made its survival uncertain. He pointed out that the Institute was obliged to take cost-cutting measures, including temporarily freezing some posts and laying off some staff. He assured the Commission that the Institute was determined not to let its substantive programme be crippled under the current circumstances. In that respect, he outlined the practical steps that were being taken in response to the situation. In addition, he stated that UNAFRI had launched a campaign to broaden its base of support and to collect contributions and arrears from its members States, which were basically the Institute's main financiers. At the same session, the Director of UNICRI spoke on behalf of the institutes and centres constituting the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme network, pointing out that progress had been made in ensuring that members of the network cooperated more efficiently. He stressed that the institutes relied almost exclusively on extrabudgetary funds provided primarily by the host countries. Supplementary funding from other countries and agencies tended to be earmarked for specific projects, and did not address the institutes' core needs. He noted that only one institute, namely UNAFRI, had received, on an exceptional basis, some support from the regular budget of the United Nations. While the institutes were at the service of the Commission, necessary resources needed to be identified for such activities.

VI. COLLABORATION WITH OTHER INSTITUTES

51. As mentioned above (see para. 25), the Institute placed high emphasis on close collaboration with the other institutes comprising the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme network. As a particular gesture for further cooperation, the Director of UNAFEI visited UNAFRI in December 1995. The Director acquainted himself with the organizational set-up of UNAFRI and its programme of activities, and discussed possible avenues for further strengthening cooperation between the two Institutes. The Director of UNAFEI observed closely the activities of UNAFRI in the area of rehabilitation of ex-offenders and the reintegration of street children into society. In addition, he met with the Principal Judge of Uganda and the Commissioner General of Prisons and visited the main prison in Kampala, the High Court, the Police Training School, the Law Development Centre and the office of JICA.

VII. CONCLUSIONS AND PROPOSALS FOR ACTION

52. The Institute became operational at the beginning of 1991. Evidence abounds as to its recognition by all concerned parties, including the African States and the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme network, as an important and relevant Institute for promoting cooperation and collaboration of efforts in the fight against crime in the African region.

53. The Institute has continued its efforts towards strengthening and maintaining a viable structure for training and research and a more reliable database on criminal justice in the African region, mainly owing to the assistance provided by UNDP, the United Nations grant and the technical back-up of ECA. The performance of the Institute in fulfilling its mandated activities, which were increasing, has been acknowledged by its Governing Board, the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, ECA and the General Assembly, as well as by African countries, which are the beneficiaries of the services of the Institute.

54. Since the Institute's inception, the host Government has continued to honour its commitment and fulfil its considerable obligations to the Institute. In addition, the host Government has readily offered support to the Institute in situations of acute difficulty.

55. The African States have continued to present a bold front in their political support for the Institute, as evidenced by their decisions at the various forums in which matters relating to UNAFRI have been discussed. Furthermore, certain African Governments that have not yet acceded to the Statute have officially informed the Institute that arrangements were under way to become members of the Institute.

56. Despite all these efforts, however, the Institute has been confronted from the very beginning with a dire shortage of funds, and it is now faced with a financial crisis, which has forced the management of the Institute, as a first step, to lay off core Professional staff and to freeze those posts. It is evident that if no immediate action is taken to reverse this crisis, the

financial situation will force the cessation of the operations of the Institute as well as the implementation of other approved activities.

57. Since March 1996, the Institute has been exploring every possible avenue to mobilize funds, including ways and means of prompting member States to make their long overdue assessed financial contributions. The concrete commitment by member States to pay their assessed contributions will demonstrate to potential funding agencies the actual support of the Institute.

58. In the previous reports of the Secretary-General on UNAFRI, it has been repeatedly stated that the political commitment of member States to the Institute has not been matched by the payment to the Institute of their assessed contributions. Yet, in all the resolutions on UNAFRI that have been adopted by the various legislative bodies of the United Nations, member States have been urged to pay their assessed contributions. Therefore, it remains a point of great significance and priority that member States demonstrate their readiness to honour their commitment by paying their assessed contributions, including the outstanding arrears. The funding of the Institute is primarily the responsibility of member States.

59. Recognizing the magnitude of the crime problem in African countries and the practical measures envisioned by the Ninth United Nations Congress on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders, as endorsed by the General Assembly, the Institute has a strategic role to play towards further strengthening the capacity of the national machineries for crime prevention and control in the African countries by providing advisory services and training programmes and promoting projects on a number of issues. In particular, the Institute has to implement the approved activities of its programme of work in addition to participating fully in the global follow-up, monitoring and evaluation of the implementation within the African region of the United Nations standards and norms.

60. In its resolution 50/147, the General Assembly requested the Secretary-General to ensure that the Institute is provided with adequate funds within the overall appropriation of the programme budget and from extrabudgetary resources. The Institute is now in the position where it desperately needs funds for its survival and sustenance in order to continue to render its services to African countries. Pursuant to the decisions of the Ninth Congress, UNAFRI, like the other regional institutes, is exploring concrete practical measures to intensify its role towards promoting regional cooperation. The Institute is giving priority attention to develop, elaborate and subsequently implement appropriate arrangements to augment regional and subregional cooperation in combating crime, which is increasingly becoming a transnational phenomenon. In addition, UNAFRI is preparing itself to participate fully in the institution of such global measures and efforts. Furthermore, as an entity of the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme network, the Institute is expected to facilitate the efforts of the Secretary-General towards following up, monitoring and evaluating the implementation of the operational aspects of the decisions of the Ninth Congress within the African countries. These demands call for urgent action to strengthen the capacity and capability of UNAFRI. It would be a step in the wrong direction for UNAFRI to cease to exist or to become unable to fulfil the role for which it was established.

61. Considering the priority that African Governments are giving to achieve economic growth and sustainable development, considering also the challenge of growing criminality, both national and transnational, it is imperative that all measures that are being taken to achieve sustainable development are linked with crime prevention and criminal justice. Consequently, as part of its contribution to sustainable development and in pursuance of the United Nations New Agenda for the Development of Africa in the 1990s, the international community is being requested to give support to the Institute to ensure its survival.

Table 1

Staffing situation

Post designation/level a/	Number of posts	Status
1. Professional posts		
(a) Managerial		
Director (D-1)	1	Filled (since April 1995)
Deputy Director (P-5)	1	
(b) Technical/administrative		
Training Officer (P-4)	1	Frozen (since April 1996)
Research Officer (P-4)	1	Frozen (since April 1996)
Information/Documentation Officer (P-3)	1	Frozen (since April 1996)
Acting Finance Office (P-2)	1	
Systems Analyst (P-2)	1	Frozen (since December 1994)
2. General Service		
Secretary	3	1 post frozen
Administrative Assistant	1	
Financial Assistant	1	
Messenger/cleaner	3	1 post frozen
Driver	2	1 post frozen
Gardener/maintenance	1	

a/ All post designations are based on UNAFRI salary scale classifications stipulated in the Staff Rules and Regulations of the Institute.

Table 2

Status of assessed contributions as at 30 June 1996

(United States dollars)

Member States	Assessed contribution 1989-1991	Assessed contribution 1992-1995	Assessed contribution 1996	Total assessed contribution 1989-1996	Collections to date	Balance as at 30 June 1996
Burundi	9 150	16 600	4 150	29 900	-	29 900
Congo	9 150	16 600	4 150	29 900	-	29 900
Egypt	57 100	114 800	28 700	200 600	85 800	114 800
Equatorial Guinea	9 150	16 600	4 150	29 900	-	29 900
Gambia	9 150	16 600	4 150	29 900	4 128	25 772
Ghana	9 150	16 600	4 150	29 900	-	29 900
Guinea	9 150	16 600	4 150	29 900	29 939.19	(39.19)
Kenya		8 300	4 150	12 450	2 000	10 450
Libyan Arab Jamahiriya	97 450	197 800	49 450	344 700	-	344 700
Malawi	7 483	16 600	4 150	28 233	4 676	23 557
Morocco	41 500	82 000	20 500	144 000	-	144 000
Mozambique	9 150	16 600	4 150	29 900	17 450	12 450
Niger	9 150	16 600	4 150	29 900	-	29 900
Nigeria	83 750	191 400	47 850	323 000	28 709	294 291
Rwanda	9 150	16 600	4 150	29 900	-	29 900
Senegal	9 150	16 600	4 150	29 900	26 024	3 876
Seychelles	9 150	16 600	4 150	29 900	-	29 900
Sierra Leone	9 150	16 600	4 150	29 900	-	29 900
Somalia	9 150	16 600	4 150	29 900	-	29 900
Sudan	9 150	16 600	4 150	29 900	-	29 900
Togo	7 483	16 600	4 150	28 233	-	28 233
Tunisia	25 800	49 200	12 300	87 300	38 100	49 200
Uganda	9 150	16 600	4 150	29 900	29 900	0
United Republic of Tanzania	9 150	16 600	4 150	29 900	21 600	8 300
Zaire	9 150	16 600	4 150	29 900	-	29 900
Zambia	9 150	16 600	4 150	29 900	-	29 900
Zimbabwe	18 200	32 800	8 200	59 200	-	59 200
Total	503 466	1 008 300	254 150	1 765 916	288 326.19	1 477 589.81

Table 3

Income and expenditure as at December 1995

(United States dollars)

Income		
Assessed contributions for 1995 a/		12 489.19
Grant from United Nations b/		222 100.00
Interest and other income		22 398.98
Total income		256 988.17
Expenditure against member States' contributions		
Administrative support personnel	5 428.63	
Research		
Audit expenses		
Secretariat services	1 482.00	
Postage and communication	20 900.04	
Operations and maintenance	22 215.54	
Transportation	9 573.18	
Hospitality	137.02	
Miscellaneous	4 941.33	
Official travel	4 571.41	
Expendable equipment	1 437.70	
Production of reports	418.48	
Total expenditure against member States	71 105.33	
Expenditure against United Nations grant		
Director's salary	21 214.49	
Deputy Director's salary	26 932.00	
Other Professional staff salary	97 846.62	
General Service staff salary	55 603.96	
General operating expenses c/	82 729.20	
Total expenditure against United Nations grant	284 326.27	
Total combined expenditure		355 431.60
Excess of income over expenditure transferable to balance sheet		(98 443.43)

(Footnotes on following page)

(Footnotes to table 3)

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a/ Although the expected annual assessed contribution amounts to $250,000, only $12,489.19 was received during 1995.

b/ The United Nations grant includes: $102,400 for 1995 and an additional amount of $119,700.

c/ General operating expenses include the amount paid to Professional staff on separation, the general operating expenses, 1994 accrued administrative expenses and the Director's installation allowance.

Table 4

Revised programme budget for 1996 a/

(United States dollars)

Budget line	Description	Member States	United Nations grant	Total
10.01	Director		33 382.00	33 382.00
10.02	Deputy Director		28 279.00	28 279.00
11.02	Research Officer	9 833.33		9 833.33
11.03	Training Officer	10 433.33		10 433.33
11.04	Information/Documentation Officer	6 900.00		6 900.00
11.05	Administrative/Finance Officer		16 678.00	16 678.00
11.50	Consultants			0.00
13.00	Administrative support	50 439.00	3 561.00	54 000.00
14.00	Systems analyst			0.00
15.00	Official travel	10 000.00		10 000.00
16.00	Mission cost			0.00
32.00	Group training/meetings			0.00
33.00	Research			0.00
34.00	Information/documentation			0.00
41.00	Expendable equipment	10 000.00		10 000.00
42.00	Non-expendable equipment			0.00
52.00	Reporting cost	5 000.00		5 000.00
53.00	Miscellaneous/contingency			0.00
53.02	Communication	15 000.00		15 000.00
53.03	Maintenance/operations	15 000.00		15 000.00
53.04	Fuel and transport	8 000.00		8 000.00
53.05	Hospitality	3 000.00		3 000.00
53.06	Auditing and Governing Board	10 000.00		10 000.00
	Total	153 605.66	81 900.00	235 505.66

a/ This is a revision of the programme budget for 1996 as contained in the report of the Secretary-General (A/50/375).